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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTOX-37 (Rev. 7-05)

Notice of Allowability

Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20051029

Application/Control Number: 09/852,438

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DETAILED ACTION

This application has been examined. Claims 1,3-9,11-19 are pending.

Priority

This application claims benefit of US Patent Application Number 09/708898 (11/08/2000) and US Provisional Application 60/164298 (11/08/1999).

The effective filing date for the subject matter defined in the pending claims, as described in the parent and provisional applications, is 11/08/1999. Claims pertaining to new subject matter, as introduced in this application, have an effective filing date of 05/09/2001.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Raymond Reese (Reg. # 47891) on October 18, 2005.

The application has been amended to remove a reference to an imbedded hypertext link as follows:

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Applicant Specifications, page 10, paragraph 7, the sentence 'More information about bonding can be found in standard ISO/IEC 13871 in website: www.iso.ch. is replaced with 'More information about bonding can be found in standard ISO/IEC 13871 in the ISO/IEC website'.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant's arguments, see page 7, filed 09/15/2005, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. The Examiner acknowledges and accepts the amendments to the claims in overcoming the previous rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn.

Claims 1-19 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The provision for controlling multimedia multipoint communication, comprising a plurality of multimedia terminals, a multipoint controller in communication with said plurality of multimedia terminals for call signaling and call control information; and at least one multipoint processor unit in communication with said plurality of multimedia terminals for media information and in communication with said multipoint controller over H.248/Megaco protocol for interfacing the call signaling and the call control

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information between said multipoint controller and the terminals, wherein the multipoint controller is used to establish and control multipoint mixing of media; and wherein at least one of said plurality of multimedia terminals is a non-H.323 terminal that does not support H.323 protocol, and wherein the multipoint processor unit is capable of demultiplexing input from said non-H.323 terminal into call signaling and call control information and into media information and transferring the call signal and the call control information to the multipoint controller over H.248/Megaco, is not fairly taught or suggested by the prior art of record. The Examiner finds particular novelty in the multipoint processor capabilities as described in the Applicant Specification (page 8 Paragraph 2 and page 10, paragraphs 1, paragraphs 4-6) wherein the said multipoint processor is able to process various non-H.323 data streams and relay information to the multipoint controller using H.248/Megaco.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Greg Bengzon whose telephone number is (571) 272-3944. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Fri. 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on (571)272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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MARC D. THOMPSON

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PRIMARY EXAMINER